

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KUALA 02295 220928Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 COME-00 /017 W

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R 220525Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3161

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 2295

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, MY

SUBJECT: POST RELATIONSHIPS WITH AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

REF: STATE 094266

1. EMBASSY HAS CLOSE AND CORDIAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN MALAYSIA. THIS HAS INCLUDED MONTHLY MEETINGS BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS ISSUES OF COMMON CONCERN.

2. MALAYSIA DOES NOT AS YET HAVE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. FOR LAST TWO YEARS, GROUP OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN HAS BEEN EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF FORMING SUCH AN ORGANIZATION. AFTER SEVERAL FALSE STARTS, GROUP HAS DECIDED TO ATTEMPT TO FORM BI-LATERAL MALAYSIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. THIS STEP TAKEN AT RECOMMENDATION OF GOM WHICH STRONGLY PREFERS THIS APPROACH OVER THAT OF SINGLE COUNTRY CHAMBER. EMBASSY HAS SUPPORTED THIS EFFORT AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. COMMERCIAL ATTACHE SITS ON FORMATION COMMITTEE AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER. AT GROUP'S REQUEST, WE HAVE ALSO ACTED IN LIASON CAPACITY WITH GOM OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH CHAMBER MATTERS. SAAEM UNTIL FUNCTIONING CHAMBER FORMED, MANY OF QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTEL WILL NOT APPLY, ESPECIALLY THOSE INVOLVING DUPLICATION OF EFFORT. WE WILL KEEP THIS IN MIND, HOWEVER, AND WILL SEEK TO AVOID ANY DUPLICATION.
UNDERHILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KUALA02295
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760152-0848
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760434/aaaabcwd.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 94266
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <24 JAN 2005 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POST RELATIONSHIPS WITH AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
TAGS: BGEN, MY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006